

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently Amended) A metal-enclosed switchgear comprising:
a vacuum-valve breaker;
an insulator tube;
a disconnecter;
a movable electrode rod;
a stationary electrode rod;
a bus-side conductor; and
a metallic enclosure accommodating said vacuum-valve breaker, said insulator tube,
and said disconnecter, wherein
said insulator tube is fixed at ~~its one~~ a first end, in an axial direction, to ~~the~~
~~inside of~~ said metallic enclosure, said insulator tube having, near ~~its other~~ a second end, in the
axial direction, a bus line fixing portion for supporting a said bus-side conductor in an
insulated fashion, and
said vacuum-valve breaker is fixed inside said insulator tube, said vacuum-
valve breaker having at ~~its one~~ first and ~~other~~ second ends in the axial direction, a said
movable electrode rod and a said stationary electrode rod, respectively, and
~~wherein~~ said disconnecter includes:
a blade support member electrically connected to said movable
electrode rod by a connecting conductor and fixed to a peripheral part of said insulator tube;
a bus line terminal fixed and connected to said bus-side conductor; and
a blade swingably attached to said blade support member at ~~one~~ a first
end such that ~~the other~~ a second end of said blade can be brought into contact with and
separated from said bus line terminal, whereby said blade ~~works as~~ is part of a disconnecting
device.

2. (Currently Amended) The metal-enclosed switchgear according to claim 1 further
comprising: a grounding terminal provided at a ~~specific~~ position of said metallic enclosure
such that the swingable end of said blade can be brought into contact with and separated from
said grounding terminal, ~~whereby~~, said blade ~~works~~ working as a three-point disconnecting
device which establishes an ON state when the swingable end of said blade is in contact with
said bus line terminal, a grounded state when the swingable end of said blade is in contact
with said grounding terminal, and an OFF state when the swingable end of said blade is held
at an intermediate position between said bus line terminal and said grounding terminal.

3. (Currently Amended) The metal-enclosed switchgear according to claim 1, wherein said insulator tube includes an insulating barrier ~~formed~~ as an integral part of said insulator tube ~~to surround~~, surrounding at least one of peripheral parts of a stationary conductor side exposed portion of said vacuum-valve breaker, a portion of a side wall of said insulator tube where said connecting conductor passes through, and said blade support member.

4. (Currently Amended) The metal-enclosed switchgear according to claim 3, wherein said insulating barrier ~~is formed to surround~~ surrounds the peripheral part of the stationary conductor side exposed portion of said vacuum-valve breaker at an insulation barrier height larger than ~~the~~ maximum height of the stationary conductor side exposed portion.

5. (Currently Amended) The metal-enclosed switchgear according to claim 3, wherein

said insulating barrier ~~is formed to surround~~ surrounds the peripheral part of the stationary conductor side exposed portion of said vacuum-valve breaker, ~~the width of the stationary conductor side exposed portion decreasing in a steplike fashion~~ width, in steps, with ~~its~~ height, and

~~wherein~~ an insulation barrier height is made larger than the height of a part of the stationary conductor side exposed portion where ~~its~~ the width of the stationary conductor side exposed portion is ~~maximized~~ largest.

6. (Currently Amended) The metal-enclosed switchgear according to claim 3, ~~wherein~~ including more than one set of said vacuum-valve breaker, said insulator tube, and said disconnecter ~~is~~ arranged parallel to each other for switching respective phases of multiple phases ~~and, given, with~~ a phase-to-phase insulating distance of 100 to 110 mm between conductor portions of adjacent phases, each set including at least one of said connecting conductor and said blade support member, and an insulating distance of 100 to 110 mm between said conductor portions and said metallic enclosure, said conductor portion and said insulating barrier of each phase ~~is being~~ separated by an insulating distance of 15 to 30 mm in a direction in which said insulator tubes of the individual phases are arranged.

7. (Currently Amended) The metal-enclosed switchgear according to claim 1, wherein said insulator tube is produced by molding a resin material ~~in such a shape~~ so that an inner wall surface of said insulator tube is inclined with respect to ~~its~~ the axial direction.

8. (Currently Amended) The metal-enclosed switchgear according to claim 1, wherein said insulator tube is in tight contact with an outer surface of said vacuum-valve breaker except at ~~its~~ a portion of said movable electrode rod.

9. (Currently Amended) The metal-enclosed switchgear according to claim 1, wherein said metallic enclosure has a hermetically sealed structure in which a gas is sealed at a pressure higher than ~~the~~ atmospheric pressure, said gas being selected from the group consisting of:

- (1) dehydrated air;
- (2) nitrogen;
- (3) a mixture of nitrogen and oxygen;
- (4) a mixture of nitrogen, oxygen, and air;
- (5) sulfur hexafluoride;
- (6) a mixture of sulfur hexafluoride and nitrogen;
- (7) a mixture of sulfur hexafluoride and air; and
- (8) a mixture of sulfur hexafluoride and dehydrated air.